

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1–2 have been amended due to formal matters and antecedent basis has been provided. Claims 4–5 have been amended to correct the multiple dependencies.

Claims 4–5 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form. Claims 4–5 have been amended to correct the improper form.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Umemoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,049,722) in view of Dent et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,745,523). For at least the following reasons the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the references disclose or suggest “an encoded data storing unit for storing the audio data encoded by the audio encoding unit; an audio decoding unit for decoding the audio data stored in the encoded data storing unit to the audio signal” as recited in claim 1.

Umemoto and Dent do not teach an encoded data storing unit or an audio decoding unit for decoding audio data stored in such an encoded data storing unit. The Office Action also does not indicate in any way how Umemoto and Dent disclose or suggest these elements. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Further with regards to claim 1, none of the references disclose or suggest “a call receiving sound output unit for outputting the audio signal decoded by the audio decoding unit as a call receiving sound” as recited in claim 1. The Office Action refers to Fig. 7 and col. 15, lines 42–48, in Dent as disclosing these elements (Office Action 1/10/2006, page 3).

Dent discloses a transmit path of an audio signal coming from the microphone and being transmitted by the telephone (col. 15, lines 42–65; Fig. 7). Dent also discloses a receive path of a signal received by the telephone and being converted to audio for the loudspeaker (col. 15, line 66, to col. 16, line 19; Fig. 8). However, Dent does not disclose or suggest that such signals are outputted as a call receiving sound. Therefore, Dent fails to disclose or suggest a call receiving sound output unit for outputting the audio signal decoded by an audio decoding unit as a call receiving sound. Thus, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Further with regards to claim 1, none of the references disclose or suggest “a communication control unit for switching a base station, wherein the function of the audio decoding unit is provided in another circuit block that does not depend on the operation of a circuit block functioning as the communication control unit” as recited in claim 1.

Umemoto and Dent do not teach that the function of an audio decoding unit is provided in another circuit block that does not depend on the operation of the circuit block functioning as the communication control unit. The Office Action also not indicate in any way how Umemoto and Dent disclose or suggest these elements. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Claim 2–3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Umemoto in view of Dent, and further in view of Kanai (U.S. Patent 6,233,462). For at least the following reasons the Examiner’s rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the references disclose or suggest “an encoded data storing unit for storing the audio data encoded by the audio encoding unit; an audio decoding unit for decoding the audio data stored in the encoded data storing unit to the audio signal” as recited in claim 2.

As mentioned previously for claim 1, Umemoto and Dent do not teach an encoded data storing unit or an audio decoding unit for decoding audio data stored in such an encoded data storing unit. Kanai does not overcome the deficiencies of Umemoto and Dent, since Kanai also fails to teach such an encoded data storing unit and an audio decoding unit as in the claimed invention. The Office Action also not indicate in any way how Umemoto, Dent, or Kanai disclose or suggest these elements. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Further with regards to claim 2, none of the references disclose or suggest “a call receiving sound output unit for outputting the audio signal decoded by the audio decoding unit as a call receiving sound” as recited in claim 2.

As mentioned previously for claim 1, Dent discloses a transmit path of an audio signal coming from the microphone and being transmitted by the telephone (col. 15, lines 42–65; Fig. 7). Dent also discloses a receive path of a signal received by the telephone and being converted to audio for the loudspeaker (col. 15, line 66, to col. 16, line 19; Fig. 8). However, Dent does not disclose or suggest that any such signals are outputted as a call receiving sound. Therefore, Dent fails to disclose or suggest a call receiving sound output unit for outputting the audio signal decoded by an audio decoding unit as a call receiving sound. Thus, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Further with regards to claim 2, none of the references disclose or suggest “a communication control unit for switching a base station, wherein the function of the audio decoding unit is provided in another circuit block that does not depend on the operation of a circuit block functioning as the communication control unit” as recited in claim 2. The Office Action does not indicate in any way how Umemoto, Dent, and Kanai disclose or suggest these

elements. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regards to claim 3, none of the references disclose or suggest “the audio encoding unit encodes the inputted audio signal by an ADPCM system and the audio decoding unit decodes the inputted audio data by the ADPCM system” as recited in claim 3. The Office Action refers to col. 4, lines 54–57 in Kinai as disclosing these elements (Office Action 1/10/2006, page 4).

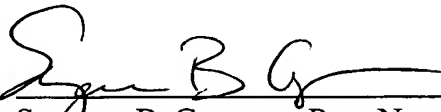
In col. 4, lines 54–57, Kinai merely states “if the using environment of the portable terminal device is quiet, and if the ambient noises are very low, the user feels the calling sound and the receiving voice noisy”. Kinai does not disclose or suggest that the audio encoding unit encodes the audio signal by an ADPCM system or that the audio decoding unit decodes the audio data by the ADPCM system. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 10/523,905
Amdt. dated April 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated January 10, 2006

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 37504.

Respectfully submitted,
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